

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/809,095

Examiner

Peng Ke

Applicant(s)

OHNISHI, AKINORI

Art Unit

2174

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 4/30/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 3, 5-18, 20, 21, 23-25 and 31-42.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 7/19/07
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Kristine Kincaid
KRISTINE KINCAID
SENIOR PATENT EXAMINER
BIOLOGY CENTER 2100

Examiner's Amendment

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Micheal J. Shea on 7/19/07.

The claims are to amended as follow:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An operation method for processing data files, comprising:

(a) displaying for each of one or more data files a reduced-size image/file icon pair, wherein the reduced-size image/file icon pair for each of the one or more data files is displayed on a first area of a display area wherein the reduced-size image is for use in identifying the contents of the data file and the corresponding concurrently displayed file icon is spaced from, and has a smaller area than, the reduced-size image and wherein the display position of the file icon relative to the display position of the reduced-size image is predetermined to be the same for each of the reduced-size image/file icon pairs and wherein the reduced-size image/file icon pair for each of the one or more data files is displayed so that the reduced-sized image and the corresponding file icon do not overlap;

(b) displaying one or more function icons on a second area of the display screen which is different than the first area of the display screen; and

Art Unit: 2174

(c) performing at least either one of the operations of i) selecting a function to be applied to one of the data files and ii) changing a display position of one of the reduced-size images by a drag-and-drop operation on the corresponding file icon, ~~wherein~~

wherein the reduced-sized image for each reduced-size image/file icon pair is displayed so that each file icon is between its corresponding reduced-size image and the second area of the display screen; and

wherein in step (c), the reduced-size image is fixed at a current position while a drag operation on the file icon is being performed at a predetermined speed or higher; and, when the drag speed is reduced below the predetermined speed, a frame having the size of the reduced size image is displayed.

Claim 2 is cancelled.

Claim 13, (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

generating a display that comprises a reduced-size image/file icon pair for each of one or more data files, wherein the reduced-size image/file icon pair for each of the one or more data files is displayed on a first area of a display screen, wherein the reduced-size image permits an identification of the contents of the data file and the corresponding concurrently displayed file

Art Unit: 2174

icon is smaller than, and spaced from, the reduced-sized image, wherein the display position of the file icon relative to the display position of the reduced-size image is predetermined to be the same for each of the reduced-size image/file icon pairs, and wherein the reduced-size image/file icon pair for each of the one or more data files is displayed so that the reduced-sized image and the corresponding file icon do not overlap;

moving one of the reduced-sized images from an original display position in response to user inputs supplied via an input device for moving the file icon corresponding to that reduced-size image from an original display position to another display position; and

processing one of the data files in accordance with a function in response to user inputs supplied via the input device for moving the file icon corresponding to that data file from an original display position to a function-invoking position on the display that invokes the function, wherein

the function-invoking position comprises a function icon displayed in a second area of the display screen, and the file icon for each of the reduced-size image/file icon pairs is displayed so that so that each file icon is between its corresponding reduced-size image and the second area of the display screen: and

wherein a frame representing the reduced-size image moves with the file icon corresponding to one of the data files if the file icon is moved at a speed less than a predetermined speed and the reduced-size image remains in its original position if the file icon is

moved at a speed greater than the predetermined speed.

Claim 19 is cancelled

Claim 24 (Currently Amended) An image processing system comprising:

a user input device; and

a processing system for generating a display that comprises a reduced-size image/file icon pair for each of one or more data files, wherein the reduced-size image/file icon pair for each of the one or more data files is displayed on a first area of a display screen, wherein the reduced-size image permits an identification of the contents of the data file and the corresponding concurrently displayed file icon is smaller than, and spaced from, the reduced-size image, wherein the display position of the file icon relative to the display position of the reduced-size image is predetermined to be the same for each of the reduced-size image/file icon pairs, and wherein the reduced-size image/file icon pair for each of the one or more data files is displayed so that the reduced-sized image and the corresponding file icon do not overlap;

wherein the processing system moves one of the reduced-sized images from an original display position in response to user inputs supplied via the input device for moving the file icon

Art Unit: 2174

corresponding to that reduced-size image from an original display position to another display position

wherein the processing system processes one of the data files in accordance with a function in response to user inputs supplied via the input device for moving the file icon corresponding to that data from an original display position to a function-invoking position on the display that invokes the function, and

wherein the function-invoking position comprises a function icon displayed in a second area of the display screen, and the file icon for each of the reduced-size image/file icon pairs is displayed so that each file icon is between its corresponding reduced-size image and the second area of the display screen, and

wherein the reduced-size image for one of the data files is fixed at a current position while a drag operation on the corresponding file icon is being performed at a predetermined speed or higher; and, when the drag speed is reduced below the predetermined speed, a frame having the size of the reduced size image is displayed.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended) A storage device for storing executable instructions for performing steps comprising:

generating a display comprising a reduced-size image/file icon pair for each of a plurality of data files, wherein the reduced-size image/file icon pair for each of the one or more data files is displayed on a first area of a display screen, wherein the reduced-size image for each data file

Art Unit: 2174

permits an identification of the contents of the data file and the file icon for each data file is smaller than, and spaced from, the reduced-sized image to which the file icon corresponds wherein the display position of the file icon relative to the display position of the reduced-size image is predetermined to be the same for each of the reduced-size image/file icon pairs and wherein the reduced-size image/file icon pair for each of the one or more data files is displayed so that the reduced-sized image and the corresponding file icon do not overlap;

moving, one of the reduced-sized images from an original display position in response to user inputs supplied via an input device for moving the file icon corresponding to that reduced-size image from an original display position to another display position; and

processing one of the data files in accordance a function ha response to user inputs supplied via the input device for moving the file icon corresponding to that data file from an original display position to a function-invoking position on the display that invokes the function,

wherein the function-invoking position comprises a function icon displayed in a second area of the display screen, and the file icon for each of the reduced-size image/file icon pairs is displayed so that so that each file icon is between its corresponding reduced-size image and the second area of the display screen; and

wherein the reduced-size image for one of the data files is fixed at a current position while a drag operation on the corresponding file icon is being performed at a predetermined

speed or higher; and, when the drag speed is reduced below the predetermined speed, a frame having the size of the reduced size image is displayed.

Claim 32 (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

generating a display that comprises a reduced-size image/file icon pair for each of one or more data files, wherein the reduced-size image/file icon pair for each of the one or more data files is displayed on a first area of a display screen, wherein the reduced-size image permits an identification of the contents of the data file and the corresponding concurrently displayed file icon is smaller than, and spaced from, the reduced-sized image and wherein the display position of the file icon relative to the display position of the reduced-size image is predetermined to be the same for each of the reduced-size image/file icon pairs and wherein the reduced-size image/file icon pair for each of the one or more data files is displayed so that the reduced-sized image and the corresponding file icon do not overlap; and

processing one of the data files in accordance with a function in response to user inputs supplied via the input device for moving the file icon corresponding to that data file from an original display position to a function-invoking position on the display that invokes the function, wherein

the function-invoking position comprises a function icon displayed in a second area of the display screen, and the file icon for each of the reduced-size image/file icon pairs is displayed

Art Unit: 2174

so that so that each file icon is between its corresponding reduced-size image and the second area of the display screen, , and

wherein the reduced-size image for one of the data files is fixed at a current position while a drag operation on the corresponding file icon is being performed at a predetermined speed or higher; and, when the drag speed is reduced below the predetermined speed, a frame having the size of the reduced size image is displayed.

Claim 34 (Currently Amended) An image processing system comprising:

a user input device; and

a processing system for generating a display that comprises a reduced-size image/file icon for each of one or more data files, wherein the reduced-size image/file icon pair for each of the one or more data files is displayed on a first area of a display screen, wherein the reduced-size image permits an identification of the contents of the data file and the corresponding concurrently displayed file icon is smaller than, and spaced from, the reduced-size image, wherein the display position of the file icon relative to the display position of the reduced-size image is predetermined to be the same for each of the reduced-size image/file icon pairs, and wherein the reduced-size image/file icon pair for each of the one or more data files is displayed

Art Unit: 2174

so that the reduced-sized image and the corresponding file icon do not overlap;

wherein the processing system processes one of the data files in accordance with a function in response to user inputs supplied via the input device for moving the file icon corresponding to that data file from an original display position to a function-invoking position on the display that invokes the function, and

wherein the function-invoking position comprises a function icon displayed in a second area of the display screen, and the file icon for each of the reduced-size image/file icon pairs is displayed so that each file icon is between its corresponding reduced-size image and the second area of the display screen; and

wherein the reduced-size image for one of the data files is fixed at a current position while a drag operation on the corresponding file icon is being performed at a predetermined speed or higher; and, when the drag speed is reduced below the predetermined speed, a frame having the size of the reduced size image is displayed.

Claim 36 (Currently Amended) A storage device for storing executable instructions for performing steps comprising:

generating a display comprising a reduced-size image/file icon pair for each of a plurality of data files, wherein the reduced-size image/file icon pair for each of the one or more data files is displayed on a first area of a display screen, wherein the reduced-size image for each data file permits an identification of the contents of the data file and the file icon for each data file is smaller than, and spaced from, the reduced-sized image to which the file icon corresponds and wherein the display position of the file icon relative to the display position of the reduced-size image is predetermined to be the same for each of the reduced-size image/file icon pairs, and wherein the reduced-size image/file icon pair for each of the one or more data file is displayed so that the reduced-sized image and the corresponding file icon do not overlap; and

processing one of the data files in accordance with a function in response to user inputs supplied via the input device for moving the file icon corresponding to that data file from an original display position to a function-invoking position on the display that invokes the function,

wherein the function-invoking position comprises a function icon displayed in a second area of the display screen, and the file icon for each of the reduced-size image/file icon pairs is displayed so that each file icon is between its corresponding reduced-size image and the second area of the display screen; and

wherein the reduced-size image for one of the data files is fixed at a current position while a drag operation on the corresponding file icon is being performed at a predetermined speed or higher; and, when the drag speed is reduced below the predetermined speed, a frame having the size of the reduced size image is displayed.

Claim 42 (Currently Amended):

An image processing system comprising:

a user input device; and a processing system for generating a display for a first area of a display screen, a second area of the display screen and a third area of the display screen between the first and second areas, wherein the first area of the display screen comprises a display of icons for one or more data files, wherein the second area of the display screen comprises a display of a reduced-size image/file icon pair for each of one or more of the data files and the reduced-size image permits an identification of the contents of the data file and its corresponding concurrently displayed file icon is smaller than, and spaced from, the reduced-size image, and wherein the third area of the display screen comprises one or more function icons whose corresponding function is invoked by dropping one of the file icons thereon,

wherein the file icon for a corresponding reduced-size image is displayed even if that reduced-size image does not overlap any other reduced-size image, and

wherein the file icon for each of the reduced-size icon pairs is displayed so that each file icon is between its corresponding reduced-size image and the function icons in the third area of the display screen-

, and

Art Unit: 2174

wherein the reduced-size image for one of the data files is fixed at a current position while a drag operation on the corresponding file icon is being performed at a predetermined speed or higher; and, when the drag speed is reduced below the predetermined speed, a frame having the size of the reduced size image is displayed.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 3, 5-18, 20-21, 23-25, and 31-42 allowed.

Prior art either alone or in combination doesn't show or teach "wherein the reduced-size image/file icon pair for each of the one or more data files...the reduced-size image for one of the data files is fixed at a current position while a drag operation on the corresponding file icon is being performed at a predetermined speed or higher; and, when the drag speed is reduced below the predetermined speed, a frame having the size of the reduced size image is displayed") in combination with other features.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peng Ke whose telephone number is (571) 272-4062. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th and Alternate Fridays 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine L. Kincaid can be reached on (571) 272-4063. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2174

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Peng Ke

Kristine Kincaid
KRISTINE KINCAID
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100